



various social protection schemes and laws which are related to child rights and protection. Moreover, the community was sensitised to make Banswara child labour-free. More than 1268 people participated including children.

## Protecting the Rights of the Disabled

A two-day training on United Nations Convention for the Right of Persons with Disability (UNCRPD); Rights to Persons with Disability (RPWD) Act 2016; and Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) under Social Inclusion Programme was held to protect rights and dignity of PwDs and ensure full enjoyment of human rights. More than 150 persons attended the training.

## Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

The National Girl Child Day was observed at Bhilwara on January 24, 2020 to raise awareness among people about the inequalities girls face in the society. The day in 2019 was celebrated with theme of '*Beti Bachao Beti Padhao*'.

The CHILDLINE team asked the community to provide equality in education, nutrition, legal rights, medical care, protection, honor and avoid child marriage, gender balance for the development of girl child.

Under Child Rights for Change project, five *bal sabhas* (children's meetings) were held in different locations of Banswara districts of Rajasthan. The team provided a brief overview of



shared the progress, challenges, gaps, future planning of business etc. with Board of Directors and Shareholding members, such as Mukesh Kalal, Additional District Magistrate; and Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS International.

Sachin Badetiya, District Development Manager, NABARD; Vinit Vyas, Seed Production and Certification; Rajaram Sukhwal, Deputy Director, Horticulture; C Kumar, All India Radio; Rajesh Jalwaniya, Scientist, Krishi Vigyan Kendra; Ramesh Ameta, RajSeeds Corporation; K L Dhakar, Former Mayor, District Council, Bhilwara; Sanjay Raika, Agriculture Department; JN Sharma Veterinary Doctor; Dinesh Jhaga, Deputy Director, Agriculture; and Neeraj Sharma, Mahindra Solution were key speakers who spoke about various schemes of their departments. More than 650 farmers attended both events.

## Farmer Producer Organisations

CUTS CHD with the support of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), has undertaken this project to promote and nurture Farmers Producer Organisations for implementing the project activities in identified areas.

Under the project, Annual General Meetings were held at Bhilwara, on December 27, 2019 and at Chittogarh on January 30, 2020 respectively. The Chief Executive Officer

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## Improving the Lives of Vulnerable Children

**A** survey was conducted covering 5000 households which showed that the children and their families are living with limited access to basic social services. Hence, they deserve more attention in eradication of poverty, elimination of child labour and migration, accessing of education and vocational training.

The report on child vulnerability could be utilised for evidence based programming, linkages with security schemes and advocacy to improve the status of children in Gangadthalai and Sajjangarh tribal blocks of Banswara. The report will be shared with Panchayat Level Child Protection Committees (PLCPCs) to ensure linkages of vulnerable children in various security schemes.

## Giving Poor Consumers Greater Voice

**S**everal meetings under the project entitled, 'Giving Poorest Consumer Greater Voice' were held at Eral and



Netawalgarh with women groups, school consumer clubs, consumer protection groups. The groups played consumer-based snake and ladder game to create awareness for using safe and sustainable products and improving their health and wellbeing, as well as promoting healthy home in their children and families. The community took initiative to switch over from biomass to improved cook stove; incandescent to LED bulb; and normal to homemade skin-friendly washing powder.

## Rural Eye Health Camps

**T**he Rural Eye Health Camps were organised with the collaboration of Government Hospital, Ram Snehi Eye Hospital, District Blindness Control Society and Sightsavers India. The objectives were to identify people with cataract and provide them with the necessary treatment, prescribe glasses for refractive errors, undertake eye health education



and train and capacity building of para-medical or Anganwadi workers.

As of now, eye screening of 7905 patients were done, 1553 cataract patients were identified and 902 eye surgeries were done in the government hospital.

## National Consumer Rights Day

**T**he National Consumer Rights Day was observed on December 24, 2019 with an aim to provide consumers with effective safeguards against different types of exploitation such as defective goods, unsatisfactory services and unfair trade practices.

The theme of 2019 was "Alternate consumer grievance/dispute redressal". On this day, the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 had received the assent of the President and came into effect.

Bijal Surana, District Supply Officer; Manjeet Singh, Enforcement Officer; Hitesh Joshi, Enforcement Inspector, Department of Food, Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs, Chittorgarh; Ramchand Gurjar, Municipality Member; Arvind Purohit, Bank Manager spoke about provisions in the Consumer Protection Act 2019 which will protect the rights of consumers by establishing authorities for effective and timely settlement of consumer disputes. Total 134 persons participated.



## Depositor Education and Awareness Programme

Two events were organised in partnership with Reserve Bank of India at Chittorgarh on December 23, 2019 and at Pratapgarh on January 10, 2020 respectively. Gauhar Mahmood and Madan Giri Goswami welcomed all the participants and provided a brief overview of the workshop. The aim of the workshop is to impart education and awareness for the promotion of depositor's interest.

Deepak Saxena shed light on the objectives of DEAP and explained journey of the RBI through showcasing videos. Munish Kothari, Former Regional Director, RBI spoke on banking at your doorsteps, safe banking and threat of keeping money in illegal financial entities, grievance redressal and awareness about frauds.

Praveen Soni, Branch Manager, State Bank of India and Arvind Purohit, FLCC, Bank of Baroda spoke on schemes of government available through banks, operational aspect of deposit accounts, electronic modes of payment/remittance, digital banking, banking ombudsman, grievances redress and compensation. An open house was conducted to obtain suggestions and feedback from the participants. Dharmendra Chaturvedi gave vote of thanks. A total of 139 persons participated.



## International Day for Persons with Disabilities



The International Day for Persons with Disabilities was observed with the collaboration of Department of Social Justice and Empowerment and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Chittorgarh on December 03, 2019. The theme was 'Promoting the participation of Persons with Disabilities and their Leadership: Taking Action on the 2030 Development Agenda.'

The Disabled People Organisation members attended the awareness rally, and Disabled Women SHGs showcased upcycled tailoring items at the exhibition stall. C K Devra, District Collector and Magistrate, Chittorgarh visited the exhibition stall, interacted with Women SHGs and encouraged women entrepreneurs for doing exemplary work.

## Enhancing Financial Consumer Protection

A State-level Consultation on 'Enhancing Financial Consumers' Protection in Particular Women through Financial Literacy Initiatives' was organised by CUTS at Jaipur on December 20, 2019.

While addressing the participants, Rashmi Gupta, IAS, Additional Commissioner, Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of Rajasthan stressed upon the role of women in the financial planning of a home. She said that women play a very important role in generating savings for the family. Earlier they used to make savings by way of hiding bits of money, but now they should open their own bank accounts and deposit savings in them. Time has been changed now and such financial literacy initiatives are very important to make women aware of present financial banking and other services.



Mukesh Kumar, Deputy General Manager, Reserve Bank of India Jaipur insisted CUTS to include success stories of those people which have been achieved through the advocacy of the organisation. He also encouraged people to go for digital literacy after being financially literate by using debit/credit cards and Bhim App etc. He also stressed on the less usage of currency notes and highlighted important benefits, such as cost-cutting from the process of printing, regenerating, scanning notes etc.

The key findings of the baseline survey under the project were presented by Amar Deep Singh of CUTS which was done in 2017. Munshi Kothari, Former Director of RBI, Mumbai mentioned that the actual position of financial literacy is much better than presented. The event was attended by more than 70 participants including representatives of CSOs working on financial literacy, media and banks, beneficiaries of the project from Bhilwara and Chittorgarh districts of Rajasthan.

**At District-level**

Two District-level Annual Stakeholder Consultation cum Dissemination Meetings were held at Bhilwara and Chittorgarh on November 26 & 29, 2019 respectively. Gauhar Mahmood delivered the welcome speech and provided a brief introduction of the organisation, Deepak Saxena explained the objective of the programme and Charter of Customer's Rights of RBI as a depositor. Gourav Charturvedi and Gayatri Moad presented major activities accomplished and its successful outcomes.

Sachin Kumar, Department of Consumer Affairs, New Delhi; Lokesh Saini, District Development Manager; Pinjal Surana, District Supply Officer; SK Mehndiratta, Lead Development Manager; Prabhash Choudhry, Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh; O.P. Somani and Arvind Purohit, FLC Coordinator were key resource persons of the event. More than 204 people participated, particularly women.

## Accredited Social Health Activist Training

Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) trainings under Rural Eye Health Programme was conducted at Chittorgarh. Bablu Kanwar, Mahender, SS Nigam and Gangadhar Solanki, laid emphasis on the importance of eyesight, problem and prevention to ASHA workers, role of auxiliary nurse midwives (ANMs) in rural eye health, maintaining register of eye patients and referring eye patients to screening camps. More than 246 ASHA workers attended the training.



## Capacity Building of Electricity Consumers



An Evening Choupal meeting was held at Village Sirdi on December 17, 2019 at to disseminate the information about the role of Consumer Assistance Cell and DISCOM including electricity consumer rights, safety, electricity theft, electricity related issue, government schemes, etc.

The team distributed handouts and reference materials and provided information to the target community about toll free number, new connection, fair billing, quality power supply, complaint redressal mechanism, government scheme and requested to curb electricity theft.

RK Sharma, SE, AVNL along with Executive, Assistant and Junior Engineers and Lineman participated in the event. Consumers raised their voices and officials after collecting complaints provided assurance to resolve them.

## Tailoring Business Unit for Women with Disabilities

Namrata Vrishni, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, District Council and Ashwani Sharma, Additional Director, Social Justice and Empowerment inaugurated Tailoring Business Unit for Women with Disabilities.

The Livelihood Skill Development Training of 45 days was provided to women with disabilities under Social Inclusion Programme to make them economically self-reliant. After the training, sewing machines have been provided by CSR Unit free of cost. This tailoring unit will make things from waste, used, fresh materials, i.e. cloth bags, door mats, mobile case or other usable home items.

Amresh Kumar Pandey, Programme Manager and Tushita Mukherjee, Programme Officer, Sightsavers spoke on the objective of livelihoods programme. A total of 45 PwDs attended.





